



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDIANAPOLIS SELECTED AS PILOT STAR COMMUNITY

One of 30 Sustainability Leaders Identified Across U.S. and Canada

INDIANAPOLIS –Indianapolis has been invited to participate in the STAR Community Pilot Program, the nation's first voluntary, self-reporting framework for evaluating, quantifying, and improving the livability and sustainability of U.S. communities. Indianapolis is one of thirty leadership cities and counties identified across North America in a year-long evaluation of the STAR Community Rating System.

Local community leaders will use the STAR Community Rating System to assess their current level of sustainability, to set future sustainability goals, and to measure progress. STAR Pilot Communities will receive a rating after a year based on their responses using a Technical Guide, Online Reporting Tool, and associated products and services that are designed to help local communities establish and measure their own sustainability.

"Being chosen for the STAR Pilot Program is another great way for Indianapolis to measure the impact of our sustainability improvements and to continue to make informed and beneficial decisions," said Mayor Ballard. "With the recent honors of being named a 2012 Green Community and receiving the Energy Star designation for the City-County Building, Indianapolis continues to demonstrate national leadership in the sustainability field."

Released this fall, the STAR Community Rating System is the nation's first voluntary, self-reporting framework for evaluating the sustainability of U.S. communities. The rating system was developed by STAR Communities, a DC-based nonprofit organization advancing a national framework for sustainable communities. Technical Advisory Committees of experts from across the country determined scientifically valid, cost effective ways of evaluating local government progress. For more information on the STAR Community Pilot visit www.starcommunities.org. To learn about how Mayor Ballard is creating a more sustainable Indianapolis, visit www.indy.gov/sustainindy.

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